

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a flow cell for the spectroscopic analysis of samples to be passed through, the process comprising the following steps:
  - (a) provision of a first-(10) and of a second-(22) window, the second window (22) having at least two sample flow channels-(24) for supplying and removing the sample to be analyzed;
  - (b) application of a structured thin layer-(18) to one of the windows-(10,22);
  - (c) contacting and liquid-tight securing of the thin layer-(18) to the other (22, 10)-window, in such a way that facing, plane-parallel window surfaces (14, 20) of the windows (10, 22) and the thin layer-(18) delimit a flow chamber-(26) which is accessible only through the sample flow channels-(24), the windows-(10, 22) being optically transparent at least in some regions at least in the region of the flow chamber-(26); and
  - (d) filling at least some regions of a filling chamber-(28) between the windows-(10, 22) which is separated from the flow chamber-(26) by the thin layer-(18) and adjoins the structured thin layer-(18) with adhesive, and the liquid-tight securing of the thin layer-(18) to the other (22, 10)-window includes a softening of the thin layer-(18) to temporarily lower its viscosity by increasing the temperature of the thin layer-(18) and/or by increasing the pressure applied on the thin layer-(18) to the other (22, 10)-window, which comprises and wherein removing the thin layer-(18) is removed after step (d).

2. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the thin layer-(18) consists of a viscous material having a viscosity of at least 10 000 mPas at a temperature of 20°C and the liquid-tight securing of the thin layer (18) to the other (22, 10)-window includes the step of pressing the viscous thin layer (18) onto the other window-(22, 10).
3. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed Claim 1, wherein a structured spacer layer-(16)-with predetermined layer thickness is applied to one of the window surfaces (14, 20) of at least one of the windows-(10, 22), and the spacer layer-(16) comes into contact with the window surface-(20, 14) of the other window-(22, 10) in step (c) in such a way that the distance between the window surfaces-(14, 20) is determined by the thickness of the spacer layer-(16).
4. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the spacer layer-(16) is applied in an edge region of the window-(10, 22).
5. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the thin layer-(18) has a complete circular shape.
6. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein at least one of the windows-(10, 22)-has at least one adhesive channel-(12)-for feeding the adhesive into the filling chamber-(28).
7. (Currently Amended) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the distance between the window surfaces-(14, 20) after step (d) is in the range from 0.5 to 100 µm, ~~preferably from 1 to 50 µm and most preferably from 3 to 15 µm~~.
8. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the distance between the window surface after step (d) is in the range from 1 to 50 µm.
9. (New) The process as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the distance between the window surfaces after step (d) is in the range from 3 to 15 µm.